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February 15, 2012

Members, Senate Transportation Committee
Washington State Legislature
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Members,

I am writing on behalf of the statewide Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition where we are always on the lookout for policy solutions that make the health choice easier for our children and all WA citizens. **We are in support of HB 1217.** This bill, which would give cities and towns the authority to set speed limits to 20 miles per hour on non-arterial streets, cuts red tape, enhances local control and can enhance the safety of our streets.

In addition, **HB 1217** also can contribute to the many current efforts now underway to battle the obesity epidemic. We need all the help we can get to make the healthy choice easier in our society and providing cities and towns with the tools to create safer streets can be an important part of our overall strategy to get our citizens moving more on a routine basis.

So while we need to continue to work directly with children, families and schools on various facets of obesity prevention, we also need to develop policy solutions in the transportation sector like **HB 1217** that support safer streets that can enable daily physical activity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Victor Colman, JD
Director, Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition

Cc. Kelly Simpson, Staff Coordinator – Senate Transportation Committee

COALITION MEMBERS

ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD COALITION
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS – WA CHAPTER
AMERICAN ASSOC. OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS -- WA CHAPTER
AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (WA CHAPTER)
BICYCLE ALLIANCE
CAMP FIRE USA CENTRAL PUGET SOUND COUNCIL
CASCADE BICYCLE CLUB EDUCATION FOUNDATION
CASCADE LAND CONSERVANCY
COALITION FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH IN EARLY LEARNING
COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION FOUNDATION (CHEF)
CHILDREN’S ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY CHOICES (CLARK COUNTY)
FEET FIRST
GROUP HEALTH COOPERATIVE
HOPE HEART INSTITUTE
LET’S MOVE, CHENEY
MULTICARE HEALTH SYSTEMS
NUTRITION FIRST
ODESSA BROWN CHILDREN’S CLINIC
PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON
REV IT UP! (YAKIMA COUNTY)
SCHOOL’S OUT WASHINGTON
SEATTLE CHILDREN’S
SEATTLE AND KING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION
SKAGIT COUNTY HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROJECT
SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
TRANSPORTATION CHOICES
TREE SWING
WASHINGTON ASSOC. OF COMMUNITY & MIGRANT HEALTH CENTERS
WASHINGTON COALITION FOR PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON HEALTH FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION
WASHINGTON SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION
WA STATE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS
WASHINGTON STATE DAIRY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON STATE PTA
WASHINGTON SUSTAINABLE FOOD & FARMING NETWORK
WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
YMCA – GREATER SEATTLE